

has since been discontinued w.e.f 1996-97. Grants under Article 275 (1) of the Constitution are given to the States/UTs to meet the cost of such schemes of development of Tribals and raising the level of administration of Scheduled Areas therein to that of the Administration of the rest of the areas in the State.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The guidelines have no such provisions.

[English]

Rice and Wheat Lying in Open

4753. SHRI BHAKTACHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether a huge quantity of rice and wheat lying in the open is rotting in the FCI godowns;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the factors responsible therefor;

(c) the amount of loss incurred and likely to be incurred due to the said situation; and

(d) the steps being taken to avoid such situation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) Rice stocks are not stored in open. Only wheat and paddy are stored in open (cover and plinth) on scientific lines as a temporary measure due to paucity of covered accommodation and to accommodate incoming levy/custom milled rice stocks in the covered godowns. Since wheat and paddy stocks are stored in open with proper care, there is no chance of rotting of the same.

However, due to natural calamities like unprecedented rains, cyclones, floods, high velocity wind followed by rains, etc., some stocks get drenched which are salvaged and the segregated stocks found unfit for human consumption are declared as damaged foodgrains and sold as such to the State Government (Animal Husbandry Deptts.) and in case no time bound response is received from them, such damaged stocks are sold to registered and State Government licensed firms who have the facilities to use the same for direct consumption of animals or to manufacture cattle or poultry feeds or as Industrial (starch) products or manure use.

The percentage of such damages (both in CAP and covered storage complex) for the last three years with

reference to average total foodgrains held during each year is given below:

| (in lakh MT) | | | |
|--------------|---|--------------------|------------|
| Year | Total Foodgrain Stocks (as on 1st April) | Damaged Foodgrains | Percentage |
| 1993-94 | 187.19 | 0.46 | 0.25 |
| 1994-95 | 207.50 | 0.19 | 0.09 |
| 1995-96 | 144.86 | 0.33 | 0.23 |

(d) The stocks of foodgrains with FCI are stored in scientifically designed godown or CAP storages. To meet the urgent requirements of storage accommodation wheat and paddy are stored under CAP with proper precaution to avoid any damages. In order to ensure proper storage and preservation of stocks, the FCI undertakes construction of godowns at appropriate places to reduce its dependence on temporary CAP storages.

[Translations]

Wheat Procurement

4754. SHRI AMAR PAL SINGH :
SHRI I.D. SWAMI :

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether the procurement season has been advanced from 1st April to 17th March, 1997;

(b) if so, its benefit in the matter of procurement of wheat so far;

(c) the total estimated quantity of wheat procured so far and its comparison with preceding three years;

(d) whether the Government are aware that in the surplus States of Haryana and Punjab, the farmers are not selling their stocks to the Government;

(e) whether the Government are considering to raise the support price as requested for by the Chief Ministers of Haryana and Punjab in view of the cost of the imported wheat higher than the demanded price of Rs. 550;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The quantity of wheat procured during the period 17th March, 1997 to 31st March, 1997 was Nil.

(c) The figures of procurement of wheat in the current marketing season (upto 2.5.97) and the corresponding figures of 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97 are given below:

| (in lakh tonnes) | | | |
|------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1997-98 | 1996-97 | 1995-96 | 1994-95 |
| 20.29 | 47.06 | 38.75 | 53.07 |

(d) The farmers have so far sold a total quantity of Rs. 20.29 lakh tonnes of wheat to the procuring agencies all over the country, of which the procurement in Punjab and Haryana is 14.33 lakh tonnes and 5.11 lakh tonnes respectively.

(e) No, Sir.

(f) and (g) Do not arise.

Production Rate of Rapeseed Mustard

4755. PROF. PREM SINGH CHANDUMAJRA:

SHRI SURENDRA YADAV :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the production of rapeseed mustard seed in the country is less in comparison to the average production rate of the world;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Union Government have ascertained the maximum production rate in the world; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION AND MINISTER OF FOOD (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The production rate of Rapeseed-Mustard in the country was 950 kgs. per ha. as compared to the average production rate of 1408 kgs. per ha. in the world during the year 1995.

(c) and (d) As per the figures given by the F.A.O. in their publication entitled 'Production Year Book 1995' maximum productivity of Rapeseed-Mustard was 11111 Kgs. per ha. in Mexico followed by 6188. kgs. per ha. in Algeria during 1995, whereas the productivity in India (Haryana) was 1386 kgs. per ha. during the same period.

Sealing of Border

4756. DR. RAM VILAS VEDANTI : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has sent

any proposal to the Union Government for sealing its borders adjoining Nepal;

(b) if so, the action taken by the Union Government on the proposal; and

(c) the extent of success achieved towards checking infiltration of the foreigners and smuggling activities therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) No Sir, However a proposal for strengthening of Policing and development of border areas under Border Area Development Programme has been sent by Uttar Pradesh Government to Planning Commission under intimation of this Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise

Special Task Force

4757. SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a special task force in Delhi Police;

(b) if so, the objectives of the force;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the misdeeds of the personnel of this task force;

(d) if so, whether the Government have made any arrangement to keep any eye on the deeds of the task force;

(e) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to news item captioned "Puliswalon Ne Ek Ko Loota Aur Thana Adhyaksh Per Pistol Tan Di" appearing in 'Rastriya Sahara' dated April 4, 1997; and

(f) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The objectives of the force are to investigate, specially, the crimes related to encroachment, on and/or illegal disposal of public land; forcible dispossession of occupants from properties and the collusion and corrupt practices of public officials in this regard, and such other major criminal cases as may be assigned to it.

(c) and (d) No incident of misdeeds by the personnel of this Special Task Force has been noticed.